

Message Text

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17

ORIGIN EUR-03

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DRAFTED BY:EUR/EE-TEDEAL

APPROVED BY:EUR/EE-NGANDREWS

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R 211542Z JAN 76

FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY WARSAW

AMEMBASSY BERN

S E C R E T STATE 015027

LIMDIS

FOLLOWING KIGALI 037 SENT ACTION SECSTATE JAN 16; REPEATED TO
YOU QUOTE

S E C R E T KIGALI 37

LIMDIS

E.O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: MASS PL AO RW SZ

SUBJECT: POSSIBLE POLISH ARMS SHIPMENTS TO ANGOLA

1. WE HAVE BEEN INFORMED IN STRICTEST RPT STRICTEST
CONFIDENCE (SEE PARA 6) THAT SWISS GOVT HAS RECEIVED
REQUEST FROM POLISH GOVT FOR EIGHT OVERFLIGHTS ENROUTE
KIGALI TO DELIVER "FOOD AND MEDICAL SUPPLIES" RWANDA DURING
PERIOD 19 JAN - 3 FEB. GOS HAS DEFERRED RESPONSE PENDING
VERIFICATION KIGALI. DISCREET SOUNDINGS SWISS EMB
INDICATE NO RPT NO SUCH FLIGHT REQUESTS HAVE YET BEEN
RECEIVED BY TECHNICAL AGENCY RWANDAN GOVT. SWISS EMB THUS ANTICI-
PATES GOS WILL REFUSE POLISH FLT REQUESTS.

2. COMMENT: SUSPICION EXISTS THAT POLISH REQUESTS COULD
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BE COVER FOR TRANSIT AND ONWARD DELIVERY ARMS TO MPLA

ANGOLA. POLISH FOOD DONATIONS COULD BE CONSTRUED TO BE RELATED INT'L DONOR EFFORT RWANDA DURING DIFFICULT PERIOD 1974-75. HOWEVER, FOOD CRISIS EFFECTIVELY OVER AND INT'L DONOR CTTEE DISSOLVED NOV 30, 1975.

3. EMB BELIEVES GOR WOULD NOT RPT NOT BE A WILLING ACCOMPLICE TO DELIVERY ARMS ANGOLA AT THIS TIME. HOWEVER, RWANDANS LACK EXPERIENCE. POLISH ACFT COULD DELIVER X TONS FOOD AND TAKE OFF WITH X TONS ARMS AND GOR NOT BE WISER.

4. IF SWISS REFUSE OVERFLIGHT, CONCEIVABLE POLES MIGHT RE-ROUTE OVER OTHER EUROPEAN COUNTRIES AGAIN SEEKING TRANSIT KIGALI OR SIMILAR CENTRAL AFRICA AIRPORT. IN THAT REGARD, EMB NOTES BUJUMBURA ONLY A FEW MINUTES FLYING TIME FURTHER, HAS SUPERIOR AIRPORT AND BURUNDI GOVT RECOGNIZES MPLA.

5. ACTION INTENDED: AT PRESENT TIME, EMB RELYING ON SWISS INVESTIGATIVE EFFORT AND REMAINING IN CLOSE TOUCH. EMB WILL ALSO ESTABLISH SURVEILLANCE KIGALI AIRPORT (EQUIPPED DAY LANDINGS ONLY). SHOULD INFO BECOME POSITIVE, AMB WILL UNDERTAKE IMMEDIATE DEMARCHES.

6. NOTE: EMB KIGALI WISHES EMPHASIZE SWISS REP HAS EXCEEDED INSTRUCTIONS IN GIVING US THIS INFO AND MUST RPT MUST BE PROTECTED FULLY. FRITTS UNQUOTE SISCO

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NNN

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